

ULEY COMMUNITY STORES

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD IN ULEY VILLAGE HALL AT 10.30AM ON SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2021.

PRESENT: Committee: Paul Lawrence (Chairman), Angela Haddrell, Pami Davis, David Lungley and Joanna Hordern Curzon.

Shareholders: See attached list.

APOLOGIES: Committee: Eileen Tong, David Thomas, Julia Wathen.

Shareholders: See attached list.

The meeting began with an informal chat with coffee, tea and biscuits kindly provided by the Uley Society.

It was established that there was a Quorum of shareholders, and Paul Lawrence welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first for two years since the Covid pandemic had made it impossible for the AGM to be held in person last year. He reported on the great success of the shop, and how extremely well it did during Covid despite the difficulties of juggling safety procedures, Volunteers with compromised health staying away and others needing to step up to fill more than usual gaps in the rota, and the problems with the delivery of the items we needed. We are extremely grateful to the small local suppliers who stepped in to help us who had not been very involved with the shop before, but who still now supply us and are most welcome. He also thanked the Committee who at one point were meeting weekly for Zoom meetings in order to keep on top of the changing face of the pandemic rules.

Paul Lawrence gave a presentation of how the shop has performed during the past year, and a copy of this Presentation, and the Financials, will be on the website soon. He said that the shop had done so well that the £10,000 awarded to us by the local Council as a small business who might be struggling through Covid had been returned since we hadn't struggled and it seemed morally wrong to keep it. We were even able to continue with the Community Spirit awards.

The shop has fulfilled all its initial intentions thanks to the excellent team of people who set it up originally, and it is now in its 10th year of trading. An extension to the lease has been negotiated, on commercial terms, and will end at the end of December 2027.

Three Resolutions were passed: 1) that we should not appoint Auditors for the current accounting year (Proposed by Maggie Turnbull, seconded by Andy Davis); 2) that the present Committee should be re-elected with the exception of Eileen Tong who is standing down (proposed by Cathy White, seconded by Tom Potts); 3) that the process of the AGM in 2020, in the face of the limitations imposed by the pandemic, should be ratified

(proposed by Jo Kirk, seconded by Pauline Thomas). For this last, all the information that would have been presented to a physical meeting was put on the shop Website, together with voting forms and forms also left in the shop, and the news spread to the village through posters in the shop window, letters in the Village News and emails to Members and Volunteers.

Paul Lawrence pointed out that the shop needs new Volunteers and Committee Members for an injection of new blood and enthusiasm, and Angela Haddrill particularly asked for someone for the Committee who could concentrate on new products and margins for when Eileen Tong, who has done such an excellent job in this area, stands down at the end of the year.

Pami Davis thanked Paul Lawrence for his leadership over the past particularly difficult 18 months, and for negotiating the new Lease. Applause from the Committee and from the floor.

Tom Potts asked about the state of the roof of the building, and was assured by Angela Haddrill that the landlords had this, and the repairs to the crack in the back of the building in hand, but that snags had cropped up.

Mike Griffiths asked if the Community Spirit awards would be happening in 2022, and was assured that they would.

Angela Haddrill pointed out that the shop, although reducing its opening hours slightly, had not closed over the whole of the pandemic which is something to be proud of.

Pauline Thomas pointed out that we currently have continuing security, but we will have to work at it in order to sustain it. Paul Lawrence responded that he had it in mind for an Open Evening, or something similar, after the New Year, to find out what people are willing to do. Tess Jackson pointed out that business models have changed considerably over the pandemic, and that the pattern of people's lives have also changed since the shop was started 10 years ago, and there could be different ways in which people could volunteer that fitted in with their different lifestyles rather than being in the shop during the daytime.

Paul Lawrence thanked everyone present for coming to the meeting, and the meeting closed at 11.20am.